

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 OMB-01 /130 W

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R 020237Z DEC 76

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1342

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS USUN 5830

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, FT

SUBJECT: 31ST UNGA: PLENARY: DJIBOUTI

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF US EXPLANATION OF VOTE AFTER THE VOTE
ON DJIBOUTI RESOLUTION IN PLENARY, DECEMBER 1, DEVLIVERED
BY DELEGATE ERSAPOSTON:

QUOTE

U.S. STATEMENT IN EXPLANATION OF VOTE (AFTER THE
VOTE), DJIBOUTI, PLENARY, DECEMBER 1, 1976

ALTHOUGH THE UNITED STATES HAS ABSTAINED IN THE VOTE
ON DRAFT RES. ROMAN 15, THE DJIBOUTI RESOLUTION, WE FIND THE
RESOLUTION IN MANY RESPECTS TO BE A SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTION TO
THE PASSAGE OF DJIBOUTI TO INDEPENDENCE.

WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE SUPPORT WHICH THE STEPS
ANNOUNCED BY FRANCE HAVE GENERALLY RECEIVED, AND WE HOPE
THAT THIS WILL ENHANCE THE POSSIBILITIES FOR A PEACEFUL
TRANSITION TO INDEPENDENCE. WE BELIEVE IT IS IMPORTANT
TO USE THIS FORUM TO SUPPORT FRENCH EFFORTS RATHER THAN TO
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MAKE UNREALISTIC DEMANDS. ACCORDINGLY, WE HAVE RESERVATIONS

ABOUT OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 7. UNTIL INDEPENDENCE, FRANCE REMAINS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SECURITY OF THE TERRITORY AND, UNTIL THEN, SECURITY DECISIONS SHOULD BE LEFT TO HER JUDGMENT. AFTER INDEPENDENCE, THE QUESTION CAN ONLY BE PROPERLY ADDRESSED BY THE SUCCESSOR GOVERNMENT.

THAT BEING SAID, MY GOVERNMENT CONCURS IN A NUMBER OF POINTS THAT WERE MADE IN THE RESOLUTION, PARTICULARLY THE REFERENCE TO THE SOLEMN DECLARATIONS OF THE ETHIOPIAN AND SOMALI DELEGATIONS TO RECOGNIZE, RESPECT, AND HONOR THE INDEPENDENCE AND SOVEREIGNTY OF DJIBOUTI AND ITS TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AFTER ITS ACCESSION TO INDEPENDENCE. GIVEN THE GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY OF THE AREA, WE UNDERSTAND THE CONCERN OF NEIGHBORING STATES AND WE THEREFORE SUPPORT MOVES BY ALL PARTIES TO FOSTER THE LONG-TERM INDEPENDENCE OF DJIBOUTI. AT THE SAME TIME, WE WISH TO ASSOCIATE OURSELVES WITH THE CALL UPON ALL STATES TO REFRAIN FROM INTERFERING IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF THE TERRITORY AND TO ABSTAIN FROM ANY ACTION LIKELY TO IMPEDE OR ADVERSELY AFFECT THE PRESENT PROCESSES OF THE COUNTRY'S ACCESSION TO INDEPENDENCE.

WE WOULD URGE, AS THIS RESOLUTION RECOMMENDS, THAT ALL MEMBER STATES, THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONS COOPERATE WITH THE ADMINISTERING POWER TO RENDER ALL POSSIBLE MORAL AND MATERIAL ASSISTANCE TO THE PEOPLE OF THE TERRITORY. WE ARE ENCOURAGED BY THE FACT THAT SOMALIA AND ETHIOPIA HAVE JOINED TO SPONSOR A COMMON RESOLUTION, AND WE HOPE THAT FURTHER COOPERATION BY ALL CONCERNED WILL PERMIT US TO WELCOME THE REPRESENTATIVES OF AN INDEPENDENT DJIBOUTI TO THIS FAMILY OF NATIONS.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, MEETING VOTING RECORDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 02 DEC 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976USUNN05830
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760446-0882
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19761277/aaaacorj.tel
Line Count: 96
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: wolfsd
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 MAY 2004 by hattaycs>; APPROVED <10 AUG 2004 by wolfsd>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: 31ST UNGA: PLENARY: DJIBOUTI FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF US EXPLANATION OF VOTE AFTER THE VOTE ON DJIBOUTI
RESOLUTION IN PLENARY, DECEMBER 1, DEV
TAGS: PFOR, FT, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006